

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 17 were pending in the application. Claims 1 and 7 have been amended. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. Indeed, adequate support for the amendment is found in the originally filed claims, as well as Figure 2. Claims 9, 12, 14 and 16 have been cancelled.

Applicants acknowledge, with appreciation, Examiner Nghiem's courtesy and professionalism in conducting a personal interview on July 15, 2003, during which the present Amendment was discussed. It is Applicants' understanding that the present Amendment would place this application in condition for allowance, pending the results of the Examiner's updated prior art search. Independent claims 1 and 7 have been amended to recite, in pertinent part, that the personal body information is entered while the person under test stands on the weight meter. The Examiner agreed that this amendment to claims 1 and 7 would overcome the rejection of claims 1 and 7-17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the admitted prior art (APA) of Figs. 4 and 5 of the application. See Interview Summary dated July 15, 2003.

In the Office action dated March 24, 2003, the Examiner contended that the APA discloses, in Figs. 4(a) and 4(b) of the application, that personal body information is entered while the person under test stands on the weight meter, as recited in these claims. However, the figures do not show such an operation. As described at page 2, lines 12 to 19 of the application, in the apparatus of Fig. 4(a), the person stands in front of the measuring apparatus, and in the apparatus of Fig. 4(b), the person stands at the side of the measuring apparatus. In either case, the person does not stand on the weight meter for the purpose of entering the personal body information, as claimed. Accordingly, the APA fails to disclose every limitation of independent

claims 1 and 7. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) are respectfully requested.

It is believed that pending claims 1, 7-8, 10-11, 13, 15 and 17 are now in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore respectfully requests an early and favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application. If there are any outstanding issues which might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' representative at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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